

# Notice of Allowability

## Application No.

09/456,793

## Examiner

MaiKhanh Nguyen

## Applicant(s)

KNAUFT ET AL.

## Art Unit

2176

### - The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Appeal Brief filed 06/25/2009 and the telephonic interview on 09/04/2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3-10, 12, and 14-24 (now renumbered as Claims 1-21).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

### THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.  
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached  
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 20090904.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

/Laurie Ries/  
Primary Examiner  
Technology Center 2100  
8 September 2009

**EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT & REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

**I. EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT:**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Justin S. Cohen (Reg. No. 59,964) on 09/04/2009.

**The application has been amended as follows:**

**In the Claims:**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:**

1. (Currently Amended) A computerized method of providing index information for secure audiovisual objects to a search engine system, the method comprising:

converting at least a portion of a secure audiovisual object into index information, wherein the index information is structured for use in an index database of a search engine system, [[and]] wherein the secure audiovisual object is secure in that search engine systems do not have full access to the secure audiovisual object, and wherein the search engine systems do not have access to said index information associated with said secure graphical or audio object;

obfuscating at least a portion of the index information so that the intelligibility of the contents of the index information is reduced; [[and]] dynamically generating an electronic document in response to a network request from one of the search engine systems, wherein the generated electronic document comprises at least a portion of the obfuscated index information; and

transmitting the obfuscated index information to the search engine system, wherein the obfuscated index information is for use in the index database of the search engine system.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein dynamically generating the electronic document comprises customizing, based at least in part upon the indexing characteristics of one or more search engine systems, the content of the generated electronic document.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the generated electronic document comprises a HyperText Markup Language (HTML) file.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the secure audiovisual object comprises a bitmap image.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the secure audiovisual object comprises music.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein converting at least a portion of the secure audiovisual object into index information text comprises identifying one or more words in the lyrics of the music.
8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the secure audiovisual object comprises a multimedia presentation.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein converting at least a portion of the secure audiovisual object into index information comprises reading close captioned information that is associated with the secure audiovisual object.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the secure audiovisual object comprises a streaming media file.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A computerized method of providing index information for secure graphical or audio objects, the method comprising:

reading index information that is associated with a secure graphical or audio object, wherein the index information is structured for use in an index database of a search engine system, and wherein search engine systems do not have full access to the secure graphical or audio object, and wherein search engine systems do not have access to said index information associated with said secure graphical or audio object;

obfuscating at least a portion of the index information so that the intelligibility of the index information is reduced; [[and]]

dynamically generating an electronic document in response to a network request from one of the search engine systems, wherein the generated electronic document comprises at least a portion of the obfuscated index information; and

transmitting the obfuscated index information to the search engine system, wherein the obfuscated index information is for use in the index database of the search engine system.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein dynamically generating the electronic document comprises customizing, based at least in part

upon the indexing characteristics of one or more search engine systems, the content of the generated electronic document.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, wherein the generated electronic document comprises a HyperText Markup Language (HTML) file.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the secure graphical object comprises a bitmap image.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the secure graphical object is a multimedia presentation.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the secure graphical object is a streaming media file.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer system including at least one processor for generating index information for secure graphical or audio objects, the system comprising:

a web server connected to a network, said web server operable to manage a content owner's secure graphical or audio objects including granting and denying access to secure content requesters, wherein search engine systems are denied access to said graphical or audio objects;

said web server reading index information that is associated with a secure graphical or audio object, wherein the index information is structured for use in an index database of a search engine system, and wherein the secure graphical or audio object is secure in that the search engine system does not have full access to the secure graphical or audio object, and wherein the search engine system does not have access to said index information associated with said secure graphical or audio object;

said web server obfuscates at least a portion of the index information so that the intelligibility of the index information is reduced;

said web server transmits the obfuscated index information to the search engine system, wherein the obfuscated index information is for use in the index database of the search engine system;

said web server dynamically generating an electronic document in response to a network request from the search engine system ~~[[based]]~~ wherein the generated electronic document comprises at least ~~in part upon the contents~~ a portion of the obfuscated index information; and

said web server transmitting the generated electronic document to the search engine system, wherein obfuscated index information within the generated electronic document is for use in the index database of the search engine system.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein dynamically generating the electronic document comprises customizing the generated electronic document,

Art Unit: 2176

wherein the customizing is based at least in part upon the indexing characteristics of one or more of the search engine systems.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the generated electronic document comprises a HyperText Markup Language (HTML) file.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the secure graphical object comprises a bitmap image.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the secure graphical object is a multimedia presentation.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the secure graphical object is a streaming media file.

25. -27. (Cancelled)

## II. REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE:

Claims 1, 3-10, 12, and 14-24 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:



Interpreting the claims in light of the specification, Examiner finds the claimed invention is patentably distinct from the prior art of record, as argued by Applicant in the Appeal Brief filed 06/25/2009.

As argued by Appellant (see Brief, page 15, 17, 18, and 20), the prior art fails to disclose or suggest “*obfuscating at least a portion of the index information so that the intelligibility of the index information is reduced, dynamically generating an electronic document in response to a network request from one of the search engine systems, wherein the generated electronic document comprises at least a portion of the obfuscated index information, and transmitting the obfuscated index information to the search engine system, wherein the obfuscated index information is for use in the index database of the search engine system*” (as recited in independent Claims 1, 12, and 19).

The Examiner asserts that the claims overcome the prior art of record when the limitations are read in combination with the respective claimed limitations in their entirety.

Dependent claims are allowed as they depend upon allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

Art Unit: 2176

accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Contact information**

- III. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Maikhanh Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272- 4093. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 9:00am – 30 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doug Hutton can be reached at (571) 272-4137.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Maikhanh Nguyen/

Examiner, Art Unit 2176

/Laurie Ries/  
Primary Examiner  
Technology Center 2100  
8 September 2009

